



Kept. Brit. & Ireland
Charles I. R.

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By the King.

A Proclamation commanding the repaire of Noble-
men, Knights, and Gentlemen of qualitie, vnto their Mansion
Houses in the Countrey, there to attend their seruices, and keepe Hospitality.



He Kings most excellent MAIESTY, taking into His Royall consideration, that the auncient honour of this Realme, hath of late yeeres exceedingly decayed, by the neglect of Hospitality, & good house-keeping, for which this Nation in former ages hath beene much renowned, which hath been occasioned by the too frequent resort, and ordinary residence of Lords Spirituall and Temporall, Knights and Gentlemen of qualitie vnto Cities and Townes, especially into, or neere about the Cities of London and Westminster, which draweth with it also many other great inconueniences, of necessity ensuing by the absence of so many persons of quality and authority from their Countreys, whereby those parts are left destitute both of reliefe and gouernement, and the Cities and Townes, especially those of London and Westminster, are overburthened with Inhabitants and Residents: And His Maiestie calling to mind, that the celebration of the feast of Christmas now approacheth, which is the fittest time for the exercising of the Charities of the wealthier sort, hath thought fit, according to the example of His deare Father of blessed memory deceased, to publish and declare, and he doth hereby publish and declare His Royall will and pleasure to be, and doth by these presents straitly charge and command, aswell all His Lords Spirituall and Temporall, as also all deputy Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, and Gentlemen of qualitie, who haue Mansion Houses in the Countrey, wherein they and their families haue usually dwelt, (except such as are of His Highnesse priue Counsell, or beare Office about the persons, or Court of His Maiestie, or of His dearest Consort the Queene) That they & every of them immediatly vpon the end of this present moneth of Nouember, depart from the Cities of London and Westminster, and other Cities and places, with their Families and Seruants vnto their seuerall Countreys, to attend their seruice there, and to keepe Hospitality as appertaineth to their degree and calling, vpon paine not onely of His Maiesties most heauy indignation and displeasure, and disablement to hold any such places of trust vnder His Maiestie, but also of such further censure and punishment, as may be inflicted vpon them for their disobedience and contempt, or neglect of this His Royall Commandement, whereof as His Maiesty intendeth to take a strict and seuerer accompt, so hee doth hereby require and command, aswell the Lords and others of His Priuy Counsell, as also all other His Officers and Ministers whom it shall any way concerne, to take order that all such as shall offend may receiue condigne punishment, without toleration or conniuenie.

Giuen at the Court at White-Hall the three and twentieth day of Nouember, in the second yeere of His Maiesties Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.